



**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS
FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION ON
DISABILITIES**

**500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 374A
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012**

Wednesday, September 21, 2011

1:00 PM

ROLL CALL

Present: President Troost, Vice President Neal, 2nd Vice President James, Commissioner Colley, Commissioner Reitnouer, Commissioner Teran and Commissioner Wright

Excused: Commissioner Weller, Commissioner Chang, Commissioner Gureckas, Commissioner Miller, Commissioner Mustelier-Parrish and Commissioner Welt Narro

1. Call to Order by President Troost. (11-3860)

The meeting was called to order at 1:11 p.m.

I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTER

2. Approval of Minutes from the meeting of August 17, 2011. (11-3859)

On motion of Commissioner Neal, seconded by Commissioner Colley, this item was approved.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

II. SET MATTERS

3. SET ITEM 1:30 P.M.

Presentation by Aileen Harper, Executive Director for the Center for Health Care Rights. (11-4152)

Ms. Harper presented an overview of the Center for Health Care Rights and what services they provide. She described the many important changes for seniors and persons with disabilities and provided pamphlets for reference. She noted most individuals who have Supplemental Security (SSI) and only Medi-Cal as their health insurance will be required to join a Medi-Cal Health Plan. The California Department of Health Care Services, has proposed making the following changes:

1. Mandatory Medi-Cal Beneficiary Copayments;
2. Utilization Caps on Medi-Cal Benefits;
3. Elimination of Specific Medi-Cal Benefits (to be implemented in October); and
4. Elimination of Medi-Cal Adult Day Health Care Services (to be implemented in December)

Members of the Commission and public were encouraged to contact the Center for Health Care Rights at (800) 824-0780 for additional questions or contact the State through <http://medical.gov>.

Daniel Garcia inquired how the State works with those individuals that have disabilities that cannot read/understand the written information mailed to them. Ms. Harper responded to say the State does not have an answer to this at this time, however, individuals can contact their office for assistance with understanding the State material. They can also contact GLAD (Greater Los Angeles Agency on Deafness).

Ms. Harper also responded to questions posed by the Commission and other members of the public.

After her presentation, no action was taken by the Commission.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

4. SET ITEM 2:00 P.M.

Discussion and approval to recognize the Independent Living Centers within Los Angeles County and include to the proclamation of the Board of Supervisors declaring October as Disabilities Awareness / Independent Living Month. (Continued from the meeting of August 17, 2011.) (11-3719)

Ms. Norma Vescovo presented an overview of the programs and services given by independent living centers in the San Fernando Valley, Antelope Valley, Santa Clarita Valley, Burbank, Glendale, to Thousand Oaks. This item was discussed, no action was taken due to lack of a quorum.

III. REPORTS**5. Staff report on rules/procedures for Public Comment during regular meetings and Teleconference for Committees. (11-3852)**

At the request of Commissioner Wright, staff, Rhonda Rangel discussed the rules and procedures for Public Comment and Teleconference. Her report included an overview of Rules of the Board of Supervisors, section 37 and 38 which relates directly to members of the public addressing the Commission and Brown Act requirements from County Counsel.

Ms. Rangel emphasized, teleconference is permitted but MUST meet all teleconference requirements with the following:

- 1. Each Teleconference site must be listed on the Agenda - The site that a Commissioner is calling from must be listed on the Agenda, regardless if it is a home, office, etc.**
- 2. The location must be accessible to the public and meet ADA requirements on accessibility.**
- 3. The voting must be done by Roll Call.**
- 4. The Agenda must be posted at the site.**
- 5. Public comment must be allowed during the meeting.**
- 6. The quorum of the members participating in the meeting must be located within Los Angeles County.**

Commissioners Neal and James expressed their concerns regarding the amount of time a member of the public is given for any particular item. Ms. Rangel explained it is at the discretion of the President to lengthen or shorten any testimony before the Commission.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

6. Staff to report on certifications/requirements on Service Animals as requested by Commissioners Neal and Teran. (11-3858)

Rhonda Rangel reported on behalf of President Troost. She referred Commissioners and members of the public to the supporting documents attached.

Commissioner Neal was pleased with receiving written documentation on Service Animals.

With no further discussion, the report was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

7. President's report as submitted for the month of September 2011. (11-4020)

Ms. Rangel incorporated President Troost's report within her report of regarding service animals.

No discussion or action was taken by the Commission.

8. Events Committee Report for the month of August. (11-4021)

Commissioner Neal reported on the Events Committee meeting held Wednesday, September 14, 2011.

After discussion, her report was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

9. Summary Report on Access Board Meeting attended by Kurt Hagen, Commission on Disabilities appointed Access Board Representative. (11-4156)

Kurt Hagen was not available. His submitted report was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

10. Summary Report by Angela Davis J.D., Senior Deputy, Disability Civil Rights of the LA County Chief Executive Office for the month of August and September 2011. (11-3567)

Angela Davis provided an overview of her report, highlighting service animals.

In accordance with the Department of Justice regulation concerning service animals: The Rule defines a "Service Animal" as a dog that has been individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability. The Rule also permits the use of trained miniature horses as alternatives to dogs, subject to limitations. There is no certification that is required on the animal, however the patron utilizing the animal can be asked two questions by the establishment or staff at the location:

- 1. Is the animal required because of a disability? You cannot ask the confidential question, "What is your disability?"**
- 2. What task or service has the animal trained to do? You cannot then require that the person demonstrate the service.**

The animal can be removed if it poses a threat. Leash ordinances still apply.

Companion pets are no longer protected under the ADA rules.

Julie Gaona and Daniel Garcia addressed the Commission. After discussion, her report was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

11. Monthly Summary Report by Giovanna Gogreve and Louis Burns of Access Services. (11-4151)

Giovanna Gogreve presented a verbal report on Access Services. She submitted the September 9, 2011 newsletter for reference.

Ms. Gogreve responded to questions posed by the Commission and members of the public. After discussion, her report was received and filed.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

IV. DISCUSSIONS

12. Discussion to revise the appointing procedures and duties of the Access Services, Inc., Board of Directors - Commission on Disabilities Representative. (11-4159)

This item was continued without discussion to the meeting of November 16, 2011.

13. Discussion and approval to send a letter to the Board of Supervisors regarding Commission concerns with Access Services on: (1) the TAP Card Program; (2) the restructuring of its Community Advisory Committee; and (3) the types of transport vehicles purchased by Access Services. (11-4160)

Giovanna Gogreve spoke briefly on the Community Advisory Committee. The Access Services Board of Director will be meeting on Monday, October 26, 2011 for presentation and possible action. She will forward the minutes from the meeting to the Commission. She will work with the Director of IT, Scott Jewel, to attend the October Commission meeting to provide a more in-depth report on the TAP card program.

Daniel Garcia addressed the Commission.

After discussion, the item was continued to the meeting of November 16, 2011.

V. MISCELLANEOUS**Matters Not Posted**

14. Matters not on the posted agenda, to be discussed and (if requested) placed on the agenda for action at a future meeting of the Committee, or matters requiring immediate action because of an emergency situation or where the need to take action arose subsequent to the posting of the agenda. (11-3863)

Public Comment

15. Opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on items of interest that are within the jurisdiction of the Commission. (11-3862)

Daniel Garcia, Julie Gaona, Victor Alegria, Sawako Nitao, Riso C. Gaona addressed the Commission.

Commissioner Neal announced the Crenshaw Mall is starting their Phase 2 and there have been good changes. She asked for support of the newly appointed Los Angeles City Fire Chief, Brian L. Cummings.

Adjournment

16. Adjournment for the meeting of September 21, 2011. (11-3861)

On motion of Commissioner Neal, seconded by Commissioner Reitnouer, the meeting was adjourned at 3:38 p.m.